

DETAILED ACTION

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

1. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Mark Harrington, the Attorney of Record, on 7/7/09.

2. The application has been amended as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS

1. **(Currently Amended)** A casing for a handheld device providing a face for providing an input region having a defined viewing axis and having an audio axis, the casing providing for speaker and microphone outlets spaced along the audio axis, the audio axis being substantially aligned with a greatest span of the face, wherein the face has one elongate diagonal and one truncated diagonal, wherein the truncated diagonal terminates at a rounded corner at both extremities, and wherein the rounded corners provide two sweeping sides, wherein at least one of the rounded corners forms a sweepingly curved shape connecting two adjacent sides of the casing, and wherein the elongate diagonal terminates at opposing pointed corners which have a shape angled more abruptly than the rounded corners.

24. (New) A handheld telecommunications device according to claim 13 wherein the input region comprises a split keymat with keys running along two opposite sides of a screen.

Allowable Subject Matter

Claims 1, 2, 7-16, and 22-24 are allowed.

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: *The above claims are allowed, because the construction of the casing in claims 1 and 16 for the handheld device provides an ergonomic feature that is unique and beneficial to the user, namely the at least one of the rounded corners forming a sweepingly curved shape connecting two adjacent sides of the casing and the elongate diagonal terminating at opposing pointed corners which have a shape angled more abruptly than the rounded corners.*

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Conclusion

5. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure:

US Patent No. 6,336,037 refers to a Portable radio terminal device.

US Patent No. 5,850,612 refers to a multi-axis vertically corrected antenna for handheld

wireless communications devices.

US Patent No. 5,332,322 refers to an ergonomic thumb-actuatable keyboard for a hand-grippable device.

US PG Publication 2003/00083114 refers to a hardware configuration for a navigation control unit for a wireless computer resource access device, such as a wireless web content access device.

6. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to **FRANK DONADO** whose telephone number is (571) 270-5361. The examiner can normally be reached Monday-Friday, 9:30 am-6 pm, EST.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, **Rafael Perez-Gutierrez** can be reached on 571-272-7915. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-270-6361.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-273-8300.

/Frank Donado/

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/Rafael Pérez-Gutiérrez/

Supervisory Patent Examiner, Art Unit 2617